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Dark's Floral Magazine

Vol LVIII. No. 9.
Established 1871.

September, 1922.

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PARK'S FLORAL MAGAZINE

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO FLOWERS

LAPARK SEED AND PLANT COMPANY, Inc., Publishers

LAPARK, - PENN'A.

Entered at Lapark, Pa. P. O. as 2nd-class Mail Matter.

Single Copy 5c.

M. M. Hersh, Director of Circulation

FROM DUTCH FIELDS TO AMERICAN BEDS AND BORDERS

"The brown autumn came. Out of doors, it brought to the fields the prodigality of the golden harvest, to the forest, revelations of light, and to the sky, the sharp air, the morning mist, the red clouds of evening."

Longfellow.

AND to us, we might add, the joy of planting fall bulbs for spring-blooming. When flowers fade and die, and leaves fall, we know they have fulfilled their mission, but bulbs suggest something different. They are brown and dry too, but what glorious promise is folded away in their brown skins. Each one holds a flower-bud formed away across the ocean in Holland, a lovely flower just waiting for its winter's rest in the ground to burst forth into bloom. Bulb-growing is one of the chief industries of that little country, and that is why we call the bulbs Dutch.

First to greet us in the spring is the crocus. A few grass-like leaves push their way up through the ground, then a bright, erect, funnel-shaped flower. The blooms are all shades of blue, purple, yellow, orange and white, some striped, others self-colored.

The bulbs are prettiest when they spring up here and there all over the lawn. Just scatter them by the handful, and wherever they fall, make a little hole about three or four inches deep and set in the bulb. When your soil is poor lift the sod and stir in a little bone-meal where you intend the bulb to go. If you would rather have them in a bed, for best results have it well-drained, the soil rich, light and sandy. Set them the same depth and two or three inches apart. They can also be planted as an edging around and along your beds of other bulbs, or among your perennials.

Narcissus are the first of the larger bulbs to

bloom in the spring. With the exception of the Polyanthus varieties, which include the Chinese Sacred Lily and the Paper Whites which are grown indoors, they are all perfect-



NARCISSUS KING ALFRED

ly hardy. The bulbs are not particular about their cultivation and will surprise you by thriving under the most unusual circum-

stances, but really prefer a good, turfy loam. If your soil is not fairly rich, mix bone-meal with it, allowing four ounces to a square yard, but never let manure come next to the



BUNCH OF MIXED CROCUS

bulbs, or fertilize too heavily. — The latter is injurious to the color of the blooms.

Narcissus are planted from six to eight inches deep and three inches apart and are various shades of yellow and orange, as well as white, some having a reddish tinge and marking on the cup. The varieties, of which there are many, so different from each other and blooming at various times, serve numerous purposes. They may be planted in beds all by themselves, or in rows and clumps around beds of other hardy bulbs, and are especially effective when planted in clumps among the perennials in the hardy border. The poeticus variety, of which Almira, Glory of Lisse and Ornatus are good kinds, is pretty with blue perennials; and the all-yellow trumpets Emperor, Empress, Ajax Princeps and King Alfred, largest of all, are exquisite with purple hyacinths. A clump or two can be set in any odd corner around the grounds and its attractive flowers, coming up thus unexpectedly, will be all the more appreciated.

HAVE YOU TRIED NATURALIZING?

If you have a cool, sheltered nook where you do not cut the grass for lawn, try naturalizing narcissus. Plant them in clumps here and there in the grass, from four to six inches deep, the larger bulbs from five to six inches apart, the smaller ones from three to four, and let them just grow wild. Along the side of a pond or stream, and along the shady side of your walk they will do well. A neighboring mill race is made beautiful by Golden Spurs and Bicolor Victorias growing along one side, while on the other side is a shaded path, both sides of which are bordered with the same varieties, and the mass of blooms each spring is gorgeous. They come up every year with thousands of their golden blooms and are no trouble at all.

Perhaps you call them daffodils? Narcissus is the family name, and the term daffodil is generally applied to the double-flowering sorts only. One variety is called a hoop-pet-

ticoat daffodil, and another, trumpet daffodil, and Lent Lily. Jonquils are botanically listed as narcissus jonquilla and are very fragrant, and the poeticus variety is known both as poet's narcissus and pheasant's eye.

Before the narcissi have finished blooming, the hyacinths burst forth with their great spikes of pretty single and double bells in every shade of red, pink, blue, purple, yellow and white. The bulbs need a little more attention as far as their planting is concerned. Any good garden loam will be all right. For largest and handsomest flowers see that it is well-drained, for the bulbs are apt to rot if set where the water lies during the winter. The quantity and size of the roots are what determine the beauty of the flowers, so it is advisable that they should be able to grow straight down through the soil for their extreme length. So as to enable them to do this, the ground really should be dug to a depth of about twenty inches, and if, after it has been thoroughly worked, it appears heavy, add some sand. Old, well-rotted cow manure is a good fertilizer, but horse-manure should not be used.

If it is desired to have all the hyacinths bloom at the same time they should be planted the same depth, about six inches to the bottom of the bulb being best, and between five and six inches apart. Many have found it a good idea to place a little sand in the hole where the hyacinth is to go, so that the bulb will rest on it. This will insure the bulb against standing in water. When freezing weather sets in cover the beds with a few inches of dry litter or coarse manure, not only



SPIKES OF DUTCH HYACINTHS

to protect the bulbs from hard freezing, and to retain the moisture, but also to promote an even temperature and guard against thaws. Be sure you wait late enough to put on this covering as it might warm the soil and start the bulbs growing, only to be frozen by the

(Continued on page 219)

HILL AND HOLLOW PAPERS

BY FLORENCE BOYCE DAVIS

Number Nine

HOA OUANG, KING OF FLOWERS

WE used to have a little, old milkman who came to our door as regularly as the sun rose over the mountain each morning, but his wife died and he moved away; went to live with his children. Last June we drove past his brown cottage which sets at the end of a lane, and there, by the corner of the house, triumphant over time and change, blossomed their old red pæony. It lifted its showy globes above the green grass and seemed, like Tennyson's "Brook," to be saying: "Men may come and men may go, but I go on forever." What a picture it made! Red pæonies seem to belong to weathered old houses. They were the first pæony in cultivation, and the most modern of them harks back to the days when its ancestors were "Pineys."

Back in the Middle Ages folks believed that the pæony protected the house it grew beside,

averted tempests, and put evil spirits to flight. It was not so very long ago that children in England wore necklaces of beads made from dried pæony roots, as they were thought to prevent convulsions, and make the teeth come easier. This superstition was one of many which attributed great medicinal properties to the plant. The elder Pliny, about 70 A.D., wrote: "The

plant known as *Pæonia* is most ancient of them all. It still retains the name of him who was the first to discover it. This plant is a preservative against the illusions practiced by the Fauni in sleep (nightmare). It is generally recommended to take it up at night; for if the woodpecker of Mars should perceive a person doing so it will immediately attack his eyes in defense of the plant."

The red pæony, *Pæonia officinalis*, is a native of southern Europe and southwestern Asia. It was brought to Antwerp in the latter part of the fifteenth century, and undoubtedly it was the Dutch who first introduced it in the dooryards of Manhattan. The pæony of the Northlands is the white-flowered species, *Pæonia albiflora*, and came from Siberia. Our wonderful double varieties of the present day, ranging in color from pure white to deep crimson, are descendants of *Pæonia officinalis*

and *Pæonia albiflora*, and are the products of the gardener's skill in crossing different varieties. The one woody pæony of the world, the Moutan, or Tree Pæony, of China and Japan, is another strain that has been introduced in developing our present race of garden pæonies, of which we have now more than a thousand named varieties. The Tree Pæony has been the pride of China for 1400 years; poets have sung its praises, artists have put it on canvas, emperors have raised it in their gardens, and a record of all new varieties grown from seed has been kept. Hoa Ouang is the Chinese name for the pæony, and it means King of Flowers.

Our modern pæony is of French origin, for it was in the gardens of King Louis Philippe that some of the first were born. The king's gardener, M. Jacques, acquired a fine collection, and several other enthusiastic amateurs

among the nobility imported the best varieties they could obtain from China and Japan, and raised the seedlings which have given us some of our most wonderful flowers. There are the Calot-Crousse varieties, and those of the world's greatest hybridizer, Victor Lemoine; also many others for which we are indebted to French specialists along this line. Eng-



PEONY OFFICINALIS

land, too, contributed richly to our stock of modern pæonies through the beautiful varieties raised by Kelway & Sons; and here in America we point with pride to three men who made the growing of pæonies their hobby, and produced some of our finest varieties: John Richardson, of Dorchester, Mass., who, at the age of ninety, was still enthusiastically planting pæony seeds; H. A. Terry, of Crescent, Iowa, who, in 1904, wrote: "I am now in my eightieth year, and do not know how long I shall continue to grow pæonies, but I want to be surrounded with them as long as I live. They are like my children, very dear to me"; and George H. Hollis, of South Weymouth, Mass., whose flowers were awarded many First-Class Certificates by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, and who is said to have spent many happy hours of his declining years "in his little summer-house

among his pæonies, happy in the sight of them."

When we learn that four to six years are required for blooms to be produced from seed, and many more years to raise from one seedling which has proved distinctive sufficient stock to offer it to the trade, we begin to realize the debt we owe to the patient men who spent their lives producing the wonderful flowers that we of today have to enjoy.

How easy it has been made for us! Seed catalogue in hand, we can sit under our shade trees in summer, or beside our hearth in winter, and make selections from the varieties we find described. Pæony culture is so simple that we need only one or two rules and a little common sense to make a success of growing them. One rule is to avoid putting fresh manure near the roots, for though the pæony is a gross feeder, as a plant which produces such a wealth of bloom needs to be, fertilizer worked into the soil and used as a

mulch will answer its needs. Sometimes clumps become so crowded that they do not bloom so freely, and in this case they should be divided, though generally speaking they should not be disturbed except at long intervals. Of course the soil should be kept loose and free from weeds, and they

should not be set in dense shade or where water will stand around the roots. They thrive in open sun or light shade, and are effective in almost every location, even after their season of bloom, for their foliage is rich and luxuriant. Lilies planted between the clumps make a fine combination. The pæonies give the lilies just the right amount of root shade, and all lilies except the Candidum, which requires an open situation, like to have their roots kept moist and cool.

One effective planting which we saw among the hills and hollows was a border of white pæonies and Oriental poppies; another has Ostrich ferns in the background and pæonies and lilies in the foreground; and a great round bed of pink pæonies with an edging of grass pinks (*Dianthus plumarius*) has never failed to attract attention when, in June, the pink color scheme is at its best. A clump of red pæonies on a green lawn, with a big shade tree in the background, is charming. But why point out any set rules for planting flowers? Every flower lover is a law unto himself, and is pretty sure to arrange his garden according to his own fancy. Sarah's pæonies are surrounded by geraniums, pinks, coleus, balsams,

marigolds and violets, and the whole friendly company inclosed by a row of white stones that she and Abraham picked up on the beach.

September is the best month to plant pæonies, October for second choice, and early spring for third. If planted in September they make a root growth before winter which is necessary to produce spring bloom. The eyes should be set two or three inches below the surface of the ground. We have transplanted pæonies and had them blossom very satisfactorily the next year, but they will not produce really typical blooms until the third year after transplanting.

My grandfather used to say the best bank was a bank of soil. This may be especially true if the bank is planted in pæonies, for a fine collection is very valuable, and steadily increases in value from year to year.

As to what varieties to get, studying the catalogues and asking advice of our favorite

seed sman seems to be the best way to decide the question. Some like one variety, some another; and, as for myself, I don't want the same kind my neighbor has. That would spoil the fun of exchanging bouquets over the fence. But there are pæonies enough to go around and supply the whole



TREE PÆONY

family of flower lovers; and the "woodpecker of Mars" is better dispositioned than he used to be, for I know by experience that the plants may be moved in daylight with perfect safety.

Here's hoping that all through the hills and hollows we will plant the pæony, and come to regard it in the light our Chinese brother does, that to us it may also be Hoa Ouang, King of Flowers.

Those who have trouble growing new slips should press a kernel of wheat up in the slip before planting it. By following this method you will not loose a plant.

Mrs. H. P. Rasmussen, Utah.

FRIENDSHIP

Friendship is a plant
That grows in wayside bowers;
And brightens all the land about,
Like fragrant, summer flowers.

Friendship is a star
That shines in calm or storm,
And brightens all life's rugged ways,
And keeps the heart-strings warm.

—Mrs. Lucietia B. Zastre, Mass.



SEED TRAVELERS

SEEDS are great travelers. Long before man invented the aeroplane certain seeds traveled in the air; before the first steamship was dreamed of other seeds sailed on the water; and before the first steel rail was laid seeds were taking long journeys by bird-line; and before ever the first tramp stole a ride on a freight train seed-tramps were crossing the country by stealing rides on anything or anybody who passed their way.

As to those seeds who were the original air-men: one is the common thistle. Some clear day in autumn if you are on the lookout you will see little tufts of down floating lazily past on the breeze. Perhaps you may succeed in capturing one; then if you examine it you may find a thistle-seed traveler which is being carried abroad by his tiny parachute. When a thistle's spiny flower cup begins to ripen and dry it spreads apart to let out the seeds. Each

seed, or achene, as botanists call them, has a crown of fine, white hairs, and as the flower head opens and the delicate plumose bristles are exposed to the air, they spread out until they are ready for flight, and then away they sail on the wind, each little parachute carrying a single passenger. Imagine the different journeys that they take, and the adventures they must have! Often you will find a parachute floating without its passenger. That is when it has struck a tree or a wall or some other object, and when this happens the seed drops to the ground and the parachute floats lightly away without its burden. If all the seeds thus scattered abroad grew, we would have altogether too many thistles, but many of them fall in unfavorable spots and never germinate.

The seed parachute is called a pappus, and is made up of the sepals which form the calyx, or outer covering of the simple flowers. The hairs of the thistle pappus are feathery, and especially adapted for taking long flights.

At certain times of the year the air is full of seed air-men. In summer dandelions travel extensively; and willows and poplars send out so many tourists that sometimes we seem to be having a summer snowstorm. In autumn the milkweed and others of its kin "take to the air." Have you ever put a milkweed pod in a sunny window and watched the pod dry and crack open and the seeds get ready to fly? It is very interesting. Each seed has a tuft of silken hairs on its smaller end. In the pod these hairs lie smooth and straight, the ends

held in the folds of the membranous partition running through the center of the pod. When exposed to the air these folds spread apart; and the hairs, freed at their upper end, immediately curl toward the other end of the seed, making a lovely, white crown, which is really the airship intended for transporting each little brown seed away from its parent plant. The long, slender pods of spreading dogbane and Indian hemp crack open and send out their little seed travelers in similar airships.

Folks wonder at the rapidity with which orange hawkweed will spread over a field once a few plants get a foothold in the grass; but just look at the number of flower heads in each terminal cluster, and then when they are in fruit count the seeds in one head, and you will see how they can colonize so quickly. The head that I examined had sixty seeds,

each sitting in his aeroplane ready for flight.

There are other ways by means of which seeds travel on the wind. Some seeds have wings. When the maple or the ash get ready to disperse their "keys" they send them off on the first wind that blows. The stronger the wind the farther they fly, and it is a charming sight when hundreds of them dance away through the air like little sprites, off to seek their fortunes.

Many other trees and shrubs have winged fruits, as well as herbaceous plants, each with wings after a pattern of its own. The seed of the elm has wings all around it; the ash has its seeds in pockets with a wing at the tip end only; the pine has small,

brown, winged seeds which fly out of the cone when it opens the second autumn after the blossom is produced.

The wind distributes seeds which are not winged; some it sends sliding over the crust in winter; some it carries in drifting storms, and others it helps to sail over still waters.

Another way that seed travelers get about is on the feathers and feet of birds. This is especially true of waterfowl and birds that wade in the mud of pondsides. Darwin, the great English naturalist, once wrote: "I do not believe that botanists are aware how charged the mud of ponds is with seeds. I have tried several little experiments, but will here give only the most striking case. I took, in February, three different tablespoonfuls of mud from three different places, beneath water, on the edge of a little pond. This mud



MILKWEED SEED POD OPENING. SHOWING SEEDS READY FOR FLIGHT

when dry weighed only six and three-fourths ounces. I kept it covered in my study for six months, pulling up and counting each plant as it grew. The plants were of many kinds, and were altogether five hundred and thirty-seven in number; and yet the viscid mud was all contained in a breakfast cup. Considering these facts, I think it would be an inexplicable circumstance if water birds did not transport the seeds of the same fresh-water plants to unstocked ponds and streams, situated at very distant points."

Kerner, the German naturalist, gives a list of twenty-one species of pondside plants whose seeds he found in mud that he examined which came from "the beaks, feet and feathers of swallows, snipe, wagtails and jack-daws."

Last, but by no means least, if we consider the annoyance they sometimes cause us, are the seed tramps. Has not nearly everybody given some of these vagrants a lift across country at one time or another? Walk through a burdock patch and see if you do not carry tramps away on your clothes; or brush against an agrimony when its seeds are ripe and ready, and notice how eager they are to hook into your garments; or come in contact with bur-marigolds and see how they load you with pitchforks. It is upon woolly sheep, and cattle with switching tails, and long-haired dogs and foxes that the seed tramps depend for their longest rides, and often they get carried into quite distant territory before their unwilling host can free himself from them.

Kerner once wrote: "About ten per cent. of all the flowering plants possess fruits and seeds which are dispersed by means of clawed or barbed processes. The part of the plant which is provided with these structures hooks on to the hairs, bristles, or feathers of any bird or other animal that happens to come in contact with it. The consequence is that it is torn away and carried off by the animal. This act of depredation is, of course, not intentional on the part of the creature that performs it; on the contrary, such appendages are a source of discomfort, and are got rid of as soon as possible. But in many cases this is not accomplished until a considerable distance has been traversed, and sometimes the troublesome objects remain for weeks in the creature's coat or mane.

The organs of attachment are either hooked at the tip or beset with barbs. In the latter case, the barbs are borne on special rigid bristles or needles, and are either collected together at the top as in a harpoon, or else are arranged in longitudinal rows as in a hackle for combing flax. Only in a few instances do these structures, which may be classed together as hooked bristles and hooked prickles, occur on the seeds themselves; usually they are appendages of the seed-coat, and as such exhibit every degree of size possible, from the delicate hooked bristles on the small nutlets of the enchanter's nightshade to the thick, firm claws of the African harpoon fruit. The hooked spines of the latter fruits attain the size of crows' feet, and are a notorious source of vexation to ruminant animals, both wild and tame."

There are other ways in which seeds travel;

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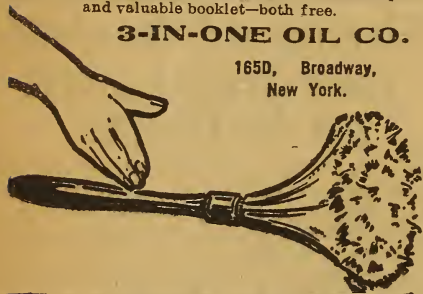
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some go from one place to another in the crops of birds, some cross the ocean as stowaways; and one cannot study seeds without being quite impressed with all the queer little contrivances Dame Nature has given them in order that they may perpetuate their species.

A seed collection may be made very interesting. Flat seeds can be glued in a scrapbook, with a sheet of waxed paper inserted between the pages; others may be kept in little glass vials, each neatly labeled. The seed cases are often artistic, and sometimes very curious. A bouquet of milkweed pods gathered late in fall is pleasing—the outside of the open pods a soft gray, the inside cream, and the partition through the center shaded orange; if a few seeds with their silky airships are still clinging, the effect is so much the prettier.

When the fruits of the Wild Cucumber (*Echinocystis lobata*) are nearly ripe, remove the prickly outside and see the fibrous-netted inner part that holds the seeds. You will find it is shaped like a little pair of trousers, with two seeds in each leg.

Nature always has something new to show us if we only give her our attention. Autumn is the time of year when many seed travelers are to be seen. Let us get acquainted with them.

AMONG OURSELVES

One P. T. N. C. member writes us that his name was misspelled in the list given in the May Magazine. We are glad to correct it. It should read W. F. Kautz, instead of Kantz, as printed.

Elizabeth Dietrick writes that she has some questions to ask about the birds. Send them in, Elizabeth, and we will do our best to answer them.

Ray Franklin presents his name for membership, but neglects to give his address. Glad to have you for a member, Ray, but please tell us where you live.

PINE CONES

J. Barrett Ringo, of Middletown, Indiana, who has recently joined the P. T. N. C., objects to so much being said about the economic value of birds. He writes: "In my memory there is not an article upholding the birds but gives mostly statistics of what they eat. Why can't some one write an article on another line of argument? For instance, I like the Quail for its call; the Bluebird for its color; the Robin's song after a rain appeals to me; the Brown Thrasher for its varied song; the Jenny Wren for its seeming enthusiasm. Thus, to me, at least, there are some other reasons for the preservation of birds. On second thought, why can't a bird's song be classed as helpful? One evening as I came home from work I walked through a woods. The songs

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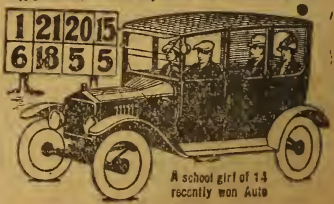
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of the birds put new life into me, quickened my step."

We heartily agree with our new member. The aesthetic value of birds is inestimable, and their songs should appeal to every one. As Shakespeare said:

"The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not moved with concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treasons, stratagems, and spoils."

Nevertheless, it has not been many years since people began to take an interest in birds, and to see that they needed our protection; and in order to convince men in general that birds are necessary and must be protected by laws, thousands of little lives had to be sacrificed that stomachs might be examined to prove in figures that birds are of great economic value to man. Until this was proved, and laws were made for their protection, birds were being killed off at a tremendous rate, many species having become extinct. This accounts for so much having been written about what birds eat. We had to convince the man with the gun that when Robin Red-breast helped himself to a few of his cherries, he was only taking his just dues for services rendered in ridding garden and orchard of insect enemies.

PINE NEEDLES

September Questions

- I. What family of plants is especially noted for traveling on the wind?
- II. How do the seeds of sedges ride on the water?
- III. What gives the tumble-weeds their name?
- IV. How do beggar-ticks and pitchforks steal rides?
- V. How does the witch-hazel send its seeds abroad?
- VI. What opens the husks of the chestnut and lets the seeds out?
- VII. How do seeds of the hop hornbean fly?
- VIII. How are beech trees often planted by the blue jay?
- IX. How do the flinty seeds of the locust travel in their pods in Winter?
- X. What tree's seeds can both ride on the wind or roll down hill?

Answers to August Questions

- I. Toadstools are mushrooms, but all mushrooms are not toadstools, for a toadstool is an umbrella-shaped mushroom, either edible or poisonous.
- II. A fungus is a plant which has no leaf green and no flowers, and instead of seeds

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products fine, dust-like particles called spores. III. Fungi thrive on organic matter that has been manufactured by green plants, for as they have no leaf green they cannot feed on inorganic or mineral matter as green plants do, so they must live on the material that green plants have prepared.

IV. When you pinch a puffball, the "smoke" you see is a crowd of little spores which you are starting out into the world to make more puffballs.

V. The spore is a cell which, in a warm, moist place, swells and separates into a long chain of cells. These chains look like threads, and a tangle of them is called a mycelium. Mycelial threads feed on decaying vegetable matter and produce tiny balls which grow to the size of shoe-buttons, and then, if they are to become stemmed toadstools, little stems develop on which the buttons set as they come up above ground and grow into mushrooms. Puffballs have no stems.

VI. An alga and a fungus are the parents of a lichen. The alga is related to the simple plants which make damp, shaded rocks or woodwork green; the fungus is related to toadstools and moulds. The alga prepares food for the fungus by means of little granules of leaf green which it has in its cells, and the fungus absorbs water for the alga to work with, and protects it and keeps it from drying up and perishing.

VII. Thousands of generations of plants, among which sphagnum mosses are of great importance.

VIII. Peat-mosses (Sphagnum).

IX. The Reindeer Lichen (Claydonia rangiferina).

X. By collecting the rainfall, and soaking up and retaining the water the same as a sponge does.

To the plant-lover who has an unknown plant with bunches of tiny berries like currants: this is Rivina humilis, blood-berry, or rouge plant. It is often beautifully spotted with white in the leaves and grows wild in Florida.

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(Continued from page 211)

first frost that comes their way.

USE HYACINTHS FOR FORMAL PLANTING

Hyacinths are particularly desirable for bedding in formal gardens and for design work, and are often used in parks and around public buildings. The spikes of bloom provide solid masses of color and are so uniform that they can readily be made into geometrical beds. In planting these design beds remove six inches of the soil. Then work into your soil below that bone-meal and well-rotted manure. When the bed has been leveled off, cover it with an inch of sand and set the bulbs in the desired designs, from four to six inches apart. The bulbs are then covered with the soil which had been removed. In this way you can be more sure that all will flower the same time, for all have been planted exactly the same same depth.

Tulips we always consider last for they are the connecting link between the early, spring-flowering bulbs and paeony time, when the first of the plants begin to bloom. There are early tulips which bloom along with the narcissus and hyacinths, but the most beautiful blooms come later, for they have had more time to develop. It has long been the custom to plant tulips in stiff, formal beds, and they are very pretty this way, when varieties that flower at the same time are planted together; but they are also very effective planted in front of shrubbery and perennial borders. There is a clump which comes up each year under a magnolia tree in our yard, and under another tree are some tall red Darwins. These receive almost as much comment as the large, formal beds; they look so natural there, and unexpected.

Tulips grow from one to two and three feet high, according to the variety, and their blooming period extends over two months. They are the most showy of spring flowers and are planted very extensively; and while there is no all-blue tulip, every other color is represented, as well as black and white. The single and double early varieties are best known and most widely planted. This class is followed by the Cottage, or May-flowering tulips, then come the stately Darwins.

There has been a great deal more interest displayed lately in the May-flowering variety.

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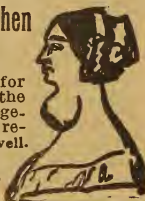
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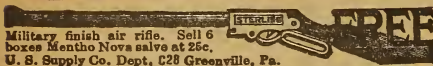
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ies, and the Darwins, while not quite thirty years old, are very popular. Rembrandts, known as broken, rectified Darwins, are very beautifully marked and can be obtained in various color combinations. Parrot tulips are not as widely known as the other varieties, but are very curious. The petals have fringed, or cut edges, making them quite different, and the markings of color do not seem to follow any direct rule; they look as if some one had just splashed paint all over them in streaks and blotches.

Tulips are very easy to grow, but will show the evidence of special care. For best results, a sandy loam which has been worked to a depth of twelve inches and enriched with leaf-mold and well-rotted cow manure is desirable, especially when it is well-drained. If the water stands on the bed in winter could be raised before planting the bulbs, for they do not grow as well where it is too wet. Measuring from the bottom of the bulb, plant your tulips from four to six inches deep and from four to nine inches apart, the earlier varieties closest, the others farther apart. When planted the same depth, all those of one variety will bloom at the same time. Design beds do best when planted the same as suggested for hyacinths.

In Maine, Ontario, Wisconsin, and other states in that latitude, all these bulbs may be planted in September. A little farther south, around New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio, nearer the fifteenth of October is best. The middle of November is most desirable for districts in the latitude of Richmond and St. Louis, while bulbs are better if not planted until the middle of December around Raleigh and Nashville. The early-flowering bulbs will bloom in the far south, if planted in September, before the

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freezing weather of January and February, and such bulbs as Chinese sacred lilies, which must be grown in the house here, are hardy there and are planted out of doors.

When cut-flowers are desired, be careful to cut the flower stem near the ground and do not pull it out. When the stem is pulled out the other stems separate and leave an opening into which the rain falls and causes the bulb to decay.

Bulbs that are in sandy, well-drained soils can be left in the ground from year to year. Next year's flower is formed this year; when the leaves die down, the strength and vitality is leaving them to go back into the bulb to form this flower. The leaves that are cut off before they are allowed to dry mean that much less strength for next year's flower, so the result will be a smaller bloom.

While it is all right to leave them in the ground after the flowering season, hyacinths and tulips are better when they are lifted in the spring and replanted each fall, although later varieties of tulips will give fairly good results when left for two or three years. If you want to set out plants in your beds before your bulbs have completely died down, lift them out carefully with enough soil so as not to disturb the roots, and then heel them in a trench in some other part of your garden in which they can remain until thoroughly ripened. Then they can be lifted, kept in a cool place all summer, and replanted in the autumn.

It is so easy each fall to plant bulbs, and 'When the spring returns with the sun's sweet light The flowers then bud and blossom appear.' and all the gorgeous blooms will make us wish we had planted at least twice as many.

Dorothy E. Fisher, Penna.

In 1634 there was a "tulipomania," a time when tulip bulbs were placed in balances with gold, when a single bulb of Semper Augustus sold for thirteen thousand florins, or over \$5,000.00, and it was necessary for the government to interfere in this wild speculation, after it had been going on for four years. During this time the price of the bulbs was often above that of the precious metals.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. My mother grew a flower called Prince's Feather. Can you tell me what its name is?—Mrs. R. A. McC., Minnesota.

A. Prince's Feather is *amaranthus cruentus*, so-called because the bloom resembles plumes.—EDITOR.

Q. My China aster plants are attacked by aphids, bluish in color, that suck the sap from the roots, dwarfing and killing the plants. Please give me a remedy.—K. E. W., Pennsylvania.

A. When plants are so attacked it is best to soak the ground with tobacco water. Let stand, over night, one pound of tobacco, or tobacco stems, in water, then dilute it to six gallons. Water the ground around the plants heavily so that the roots will be thoroughly soaked. Wood ashes mixed with the soil when aster plants are to be set will often prevent the appearance of the aphid.—EDITOR.

Q. What is the botanical name for Solomon's Seal?—W. M., Ohio.

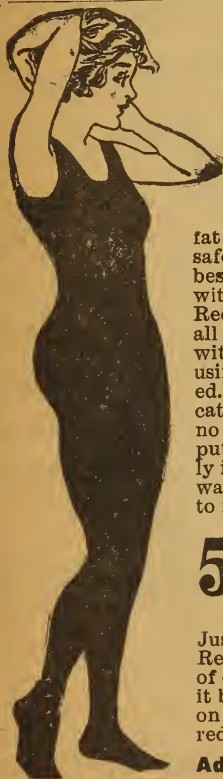
A. Solomon's Seal is *Polygonatum*, of the lily family. The common name comes from the fact that the scar on the horizontal root-stocks, made when the annual stems die, resembles a seal. *P. multiflorum* is the variety best known in America and is also common in Europe where it is known as lady's seal and David's harp.—EDITOR.

Q. Can hardy primulas be propagated by division?—Mrs. L. B., Indiana.

A. When the hardy primulas become rather large, or when it is desired to perpetuate some special variety, propagating by division is practiced. Just divide the plant, or clump, into two or more parts and replant. September is the best month for doing this.

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Plants are also easily raised from seed sown in pans or shallow flats in February, or in the cold frames in April or May.—EDITOR.

Q. Can auratum lilies be grown in pots? If so, when should they be potted?—M. H., Illinois.

A. Auratums will grow well in pots, but should not be forced. Use rich, porous soil setting the bulb three inches below the surface, and furnish it with good drainage. The pot should not be exposed to the noonday sun, for this heats the bulb and is liable to cause it to blast. Potting may be done in the fall and the plant kept in the cellar till spring, or the bulb may be planted in spring.—EDITOR.

Q. What is roquette?—S. B., Michigan.

A. Roquette, or rocket-salad, is Eruca sativa, a weedy, low-growing, hardy annual resembling mustard, and coming from southern Europe. It is used a great deal by the French as a salad and pot-herb, the young, tender leaves bearing a strong resemblance to horse-radish. The plant is little grown in America because there are milder-flavored plants that serve the same purpose.—EDITOR.

Q. Why was the mock orange called Philadelphus?—J. M., Kentucky.

A. The mock orange, or syringa, was named Philadelphus for the ancient king, Ptolemy Philadelphus, who reigned from 285 to 247 B. C.—EDITOR.

Stop Whiskey

An Odorless and Tasteless Treatment

Any lady can give it secretly at home in tea coffee or food, and it costs nothing to try! If you have a husband, son, brother, father or friend who is a victim of whiskey, beer or wine, send your name and address to Dr. J. W. Haines Co., 459 Glenn Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, and they will send you absolutely free in plain wrapper, a trial package of this wonderful treatment. Write today and be thankful all your life.

Cured His RUPTURE

I was badly ruptured while lifting a trunk several years ago. Doctors said my only hope of cure was an operation. Trusses did me no good. Finally I got hold of something that quickly and completely cured me. Years have passed and the rupture has never returned, although I am doing hard work as a carpenter. There was no operation, no lost time, no trouble. I have nothing to sell, but will give full information about how you may find a complete cure without operation, if you write to me, Eugene M. Pullen, Carpenter, 42 J Marcellus Avenue, Manasquan, N.J. Better cut out this notice and show it to any others who are ruptured—you may save a life or at least stop the misery of rupture and the worry and danger of an operation.

ASTHMA CATARRH



TREATED FREE 10 DAYS to prove quick relief. Dr. Coffee had catarrh, deafness, head noises. He found a treatment that gave complete relief. Thousands used it successfully. Want you to try it free. Write

Dr. W. O. COFFEE
Dept. 119 Davenport, Iowa.

Conquer the TOBACCO OR SNUFF HABIT

quickly with simple, harmless preparation. No matter whether you smoke cigars, cigarettes, pipe, chew or use snuff, this preparation is guaranteed to quickly free you of the tobacco habit. NO CURE, NO PAY. Costs only \$1 if it cures—Nothing if it fails. Full treatment sent on approval. Write today.

DR. C. M. SIMPSON CO.

214 W. 44th Street, Cleveland, Ohio

GOITRE

Removed at Home Without Operation or Danger



This simple, safe home treatment removes Goitre without inconvenience or danger. Hundreds of difficult cases that refused to yield to any other treatment have reported immediate results.

"My goitre is cured and am feeling fine. I improved before taking medicine a week," says Mrs. C. W. Hahn, of North Jackson, Ohio. Mrs. W. A. Pease, of Creston, B. C., Can., writes: "A friend in Alberta got your treatment and was cured. I concluded to try it, and after using one treatment my goitre entirely disappeared."

Quickly stops choking and other disagreeable symptoms. Does not interfere with regular duties.

No danger. Convince yourself without pay or obligation. Send Coupon today for \$2.50 Test Treatment.

\$2.50 FREE COUPON

This coupon is good for \$2.50 Test Treatment mailed free in plain package if accompanied by 10c to cover postage. Address THE W. T. B. LABORATORY, Battle Creek, Mich.

Age? _____ How old is Goitre? _____ yrs.
Nervous? _____ Hands Tremble? _____
Do eyes bulge? _____ Does heart beat too rapidly? _____ Health? _____
Name _____
Address _____

603

FINE NEW FORD TOURING CAR GIVEN

15	8	25	15	21
8	5	14	18	25

Solve This Puzzle and Win 10,000 Votes

The figures represent corresponding letters in the alphabet. Figure 1 is A, 2 is B, 3 is C, and so on. The ten figures spell three words. Send the three words

with your name and address quick. I have given away many Autos, Cash Rewards and other Prizes to contestants in former Contests. Full particulars of my simple plan will be sent when your solution is received.



Thousands of Dollars in Other Grand Prizes and Cash Rewards

Besides the Auto I am going to give Phonographs, Bicycles, Gold Watches, Silverware, Dinner Set, etc., and Cash Rewards to contestants in my contest for subscriptions. Prizes duplicated in case of tie. Get your share of these EASY-TO-WIN prizes. No experience required, and no contestant is asked to pay one cent of their own money. Don't let anyone in your neighborhood beat you to it. The quicker you set the bigger your winnings if you follow my plan. Just send your answer to the puzzle with your name and address.

DUANE W. GAYLORD, 337 S. Dearborn St., Dept. 46, CHICAGO, ILL.

Why TRY to Treat Piles from the Outside?

You Can Not POSSIBLY Reach the Real Trouble With Ointments, Salves, Dilators or Other Local Treatments--They May Ease For the Moment, But Can Never Heal Where They Can Never Reach.

Don't Submit to an Operation-- Until You Have Tried Our Easy and Sensible Treatment

We Can PROVE Every Statement That We Make

No matter how severe your case may be, or of how long standing. The old, stubborn cases, that are supposed to be "incurable" are the very ones we like best to write to us--for we can nearly always count upon those people to be our best friends and boosters after this treatment has made them well.

Neither does it matter where you live nor what your occupation may be--we are as near to you as your mail box, and if you are troubled with piles, this method will give you quick relief and within a short time you will have joined the ranks of the thousands who write us that they feel themselves to be permanently cured.

We want you to understand that the Page Method is DIFFERENT from all others and that it is the ONE MOST RELIABLE and SUREST remedy for the home treatment of piles. Send the coupon NOW while you have the matter in mind and this offer before you.

Don't let anyone persuade you to submit to an operation until you have at least given this internal method a trial and a chance to cure you. A few days' delay will not make your case much harder for the surgeon, and you may not need him at all.

After Suffering 40 Years

E. R. Page Co.
Dear Sirs:

You are more than welcome to use my name and recommendation and I hope that it may be the means of giving some poor sufferer as much relief as you gave me. I only expected relief and your remedy cured me after suffering with the torture of hemorrhoids for over 40 years. I feel like another man. I cannot praise your pile remedy too highly.

Respectfully yours,
S. A. Fayey

Danville, Ill.
N. H. D. V. S. Co. 1
Lock Box D,

Bleeding Piles for Six Years

"Your Pile Tablets are surely wonderful. I was troubled with bleeding piles, off and on, for six years; couldn't get anything to cure them until I read your ad, in the daily paper. The sample must have cured me--I haven't been bothered since."

Yours truly,
MRS. M. J. MANBECK.

R. R. 2, Box 96
San Bernardino, Calif.

**Just
Chew
This
Pleasant
Tablet**



There is only one sensible, sure and Safe way to treat piles and prevent them from coming back every few weeks to annoy and pain you again. This is by permanently healing them with the **Page Internal Treatment**. While the **Page** treatment includes both an ointment and bowel regulator, we tell you frankly and honestly in our directions that these will give you temporary relief--But that **Permanent Benefit** will come from the **Page Pile Tablet**. This is a very pleasant tasting tablet and you will enjoy chewing one or two after meals. This System for the Cure of Piles has been sold for **More than a Quarter of a Century** and is endorsed in **Thousands of Letters** Reporting the **Cure** of cases that seemed beyond hope of relief:

Let Us Send You a Trial Package Absolutely Free.

Just Send Us Your Address and Name on the Coupon

This method of treating Piles, from the **INSIDE** instead of the **OUTSIDE**, is not a new idea or something that has not been given a thorough test. We quote below a letter received from a patient who suffered from piles for 40 years before trying our method of treatment.

Coupon For Free Proof

E. R. Page Co.,

351G Page Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

Without any cost or obligation on my part, please send me a trial package of your Combination Treatment for Piles.

Name.....

Address.....

Town..... State.....